

In re Application of:

Group Art Unit:

Examiner:

Filed: July 17, 2003

For: SYSTEM FOR DRILLING OIL §  
AND GAS WELLS BY VARYING §  
THE DENSITY OF DRILLING §  
FLUIDS TO ACHIEVE NEAR- §  
BALANCED, UNDERBALANCED, §  
OR OVERBALANCED DRILLING §  
CONDITIONS §

## 37 C.F.R. §110

I hereby certify that this document and its attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee Service, as Express Mail No.: EV 323256400US prior to the last scheduled pick up, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date below:

October 2, 2003  
Date

*Zealand*  
Signature

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

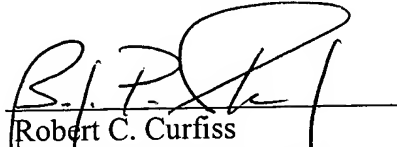
## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

1. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.99, Applicant hereby submits reference of which he or she is aware that may be material to the examination of this application, and of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b), nor shall the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement be construed as a representation that a search has been made.
2. The references are listed on the accompanying Forms PTO-1449, and a copy of each reference is provided herewith.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement:
  - ☐ Accompanies a new patent application submitted herewith.
  - ☐ Is being filed within 3 months after the filing date of the application.
  - ☒ Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits.
  - ☐ After each of the above, but before the mailing date of either a final action or Notice of Allowance and is accompanied by a:

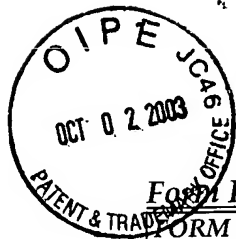
[ ] After all of the above, but before payment of the Issue Fee. The Statement is accompanied by a certification and a petition requesting consideration of the Statement and a petition fee of \$130 (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i)(1)).

4. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, if any, or discrepancies in fees required, to Deposit Account 10-0096.
5. Undersigned counsel hereby requests a telephone conference with the Examiner if there are any questions. It is respectfully requested that the references be considered by the Examiner, be made a part of the official record, and be cited in the issued patent.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Curfiss  
Registration No. 26,540  
Bryan P. Galloway  
Registration No. 50,312  
Jackson Walker, L.L.P.  
1401 McKinney, Suite 1900  
Houston, Texas 77010  
(713)752-4200  
(713)752-4221 - Facsimile  
ATTORNEYS FOR ASSIGNEE



## Form PTO-1449 (Modified)

FORM PTO-1449  
(Modified)U.S. Dept. of Commerce  
Patent & Trademark OfficeATTY DKT. NO.:  
122462.00002.005

SER. NO.: 10/622,025

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

(37 CFR 1.98(b))

APPLICANT: LUC DE BOER

FILING DATE: 07/17/2003

GROUP:

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Patent Number	Issue Date	Patentee	Class	Sub-class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	4,099,583	07/11/1978	Maus	175	7	04/11/1977
	3,603,409	09/07/1971	Watkins	175	7	03/27/1969
	4,291,772	09/29/1981	Beynet	175	5	03/25/1980
	6,179,071	01/30/2001	Dietzen	175	66	03/02/1999
	6,152,246	11/28/2000	King	175	26	12/02/1998
	5,873,420	02/23/1999	Gearhart	175	25	05/27/1997

## FOREIGN PATENT OR PUBLISHED FOREIGN PATENT APPLICATION

Document Number	Publ. Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Sub-Class	Translation Yes No

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Relevant Pages, Place of Publication)

			IADC/SPE 1996 DRILLING CONFERENCE ABSTRACT REPORTING FORM/ 1 PAGE
--	--	--	--

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

\*It is believed these references are potentially relevant but applicant has not determined whether or not these two online printouts represent prior art as they were a result of search performed after applicant's date of invention.